

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GLORIA MOLINA

March 26, 2013

The Chicana Service Action Center (Chicana) was founded by women whose mission is to help other women achieve personal and economic empowerment. This non-profit corporation based in Los Angeles County was founded in 1972, and has 40 years of experience in providing critical services to women, children and underserved populations with employment training, career development, job placement, counseling, domestic violence and women's homeless shelter services. Their programs include the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) General Relief Opportunity to Work (GROW), CalWORKS Domestic Violence Services (DVS), Community Service Block Grant (CSBG), Food Stamp Outreach Program (CALFRESH), Domestic Violence Shelter Based Programs, and the Department Community Senior and Services (CSS) Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

Chicana has been providing GROW services for 14 years—since 1999. In December 2012, Chicana's Orientation program attained the highest performance of all GROW sites. The San Gabriel location and the Pomona location attained 90% client participation rates and the Metro-East location achieved an 86% participation rate. Chicana's Pomona site achieved a Job Placement rate of 73%—one of the highest job

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placement rates among all providers for the year. Chicana is a recipient of the California Council for Excellence Award and in 2010 the City of Los Angeles recognized Chicana as a four-star performer for Workforce Development and Employment in meeting and exceeding contract goals.

WIA programs assist individuals in obtaining employment, retaining their jobs and increasing their earnings. Chicana has achieved much success by placing over 300 individuals into jobs over the last four years.

The County's unemployment rate is currently over 9%--many residents still face the challenges of finding stable employment, therefore, it is in the best interest of the County for Chicana clients to continue to receive critical services from Chicana through its GROW and the WIA employment training programs administered by DPSS and DCSS.

It is also imperative that Chicana be given a fair and just opportunity to competitively bid for these services. Chicana should not be disqualified from future contracts. Chicana has fulfilled all of its contractual requirements and has met all of the minimum County standards.

I, THEREFORE move that the Director of DPSS or designee, include Chicana in the current board letter for GROW job services.

I, FURTHER move that the Director of CSS, or designee, include Chicana in the WIA board letter.

I, FURTHER move that Chicana be considered in all the procurement processes for future contracts with the County.